

REMARKS

Prior to an examination on the merits of the above-identified patent application, please enter the foregoing amendments.

Claims 5-9 are now pending in the above-identified patent application, as presented by the instant Preliminary Amendment. All prior (original) claims have been cancelled. Claim 5 is the single claim presented in independent form.

The present application represents the U.S. National Phase of P.C.T. Application No. PCT/GB2004/005457, filed December 29, 2004, and claiming foreign priority on the basis of a corresponding United Kingdom patent application, filed December 30, 2003. *A Petition to Revive*, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.137(b), is being concurrently filed.

By the present amendments, prior Claims 1-4 have been cancelled and substituted by new Claims 5-9, which have been drafted in conformance with U.S. claim practice.

A substitute Abstract of the Disclosure, on a separate sheet of paper, as required by 37 C.F.R. §1.72(b), is also enclosed.

The application is now in condition for a full examination on the merits.

Accordingly, an early examination on the merits and allowance are, therefore,
respectfully requested and earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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